

AMONGST ISLANDS

Of the South Seas on the Morning Star.

HARRY SWINTON ON THE GILBERTS

Sketch of the Work of the Missionaries.

Splendid Teachers With Splendid Results—Young Students With Musical Voices.

In this article Harry Swinton continues his narrative of the trip of the Morning Star through the Gilbert Islands.

We stayed in Butaritari until the morning of December 23d. After taking on board all the missionary stores we left there on our way down from Honolulu, we weighed anchor at 8:30 a. m. for Makin, an island just six miles across to the eastward of this one. The way we had to go to get to it made the distance fully 20 miles. We went out of the lagoon on the west side, then around the north point, and then we steamed almost due east as soon as possible. After getting out of the lagoon, found the wind very light and well to the eastward. Steamed all the way, arriving at Makin station 2:10 p. m., December 24th.

We lowered the boat, and while doing so, the teacher came off in his canoe with some of the school girls of the island. They were all neatly dressed, as was the teacher. After greeting one another, they all got into the ship's boat, with Mr. Channon, Mr. Walker, Miss Wilson, the principal of the Gilbert Islands' Girls' School, and the school girls and boys. In fact, all those who wanted to go ashore did so. I would say here that the teacher of this place is one of the most energetic of all those of the group. He is a young, but well-educated man. I am told by Mr. Channon he was the best scholar he had at the school. He looks every inch a teacher, and is fortunate enough to be married to one of the training school girls. I am told that she spent a little while at Kewalo Seminary. She, too, is a very tidy woman, and a great help to her husband. Mr. Channon had intended to transfer this young man to another island, if such was his desire. For that reason we brought a teacher from Butaritari, who was helping Mr. Mitchell. Upon our arrival, we found that the young man had made up his mind to remain in his old position another year.

This is one of the islands of the Gilbert group where it is necessary to lay off and on, as there is no entrance into the lagoon. By the way, the lagoon of this island is the finest in all Micronesia. It is cozy and well sheltered. More, then, the pity there is no entrance into it. This laying-off business means more "box-hauling" than the law allows.

We found there a very neat church, with a large membership. There is, also, a large school of boys and girls, and to judge from the appearance and behavior of these children, the teacher and his wife have taken a great deal of pains to bring them up to the standard in which we found them.

Towards evening Mr. Channon and his wife came off aboard, having completed the work ashore. After Mr. Walker had paid off the teachers, we squared away for Makin. It might be interesting to know that each teacher in the Gilbert group is paid \$24 a year in trade. If there is anything left after each has picked out what he needs, this is paid in cash.

As we were sailing away from the station the teacher, with his girls and boys, commenced singing from their canon, "Shall We Meet Again." We could hear them even after we had gotten a mile or two down the coast. The music wafted to us by the gentle breeze that was blowing at the time, caused us to think of our thoughts and made us silent. I would say here, they are born musicians, just as the Hawaiians, and their voices are of a splendid quality. They can read music like old musicians, showing conclusively that their training in that line at Kewalo was not neglected. Great credit is due Mrs. Channon for the pains she has taken in teaching these children.

Nine o'clock next day (25th), by observation, found a strong easterly sea had taken us off our course, consequently we had to keep off more to the westward, steering SW by W to make Makin, which we did at 12:45 p. m. Got aboard of the station 1:45, or one hour later. When nearing the land, we could see the people hauling their canoes into the sea to come off to us. Wave almost of the mission station we stopped steaming and lay aback. Some four or five canoes came alongside. There being no lagoon we had to lay off and on. There is an anchorage near the shore but it is unsafe. The teacher or pastor of the island came off. Did not stay on board long as we lowered one of his boats and he went ashore with Mr. Channon. Mr. Walker, Miss Wilson, the school boys and girls. We put ashore there a man belonging to the place. He went up to Kewalo as a sailor in the "Hiram Bingham," she being short-handed when she was down on her last trip.

We found there, as elsewhere, a fine church. The people, however, are not as far advanced as those on the last island visited. However, taking it as a whole, they are doing very well. As we wanted to get to Apia before night and did not stay here very long. By 6:30 a. m. Mr. Channon and Mr. Walker got through with their work and at 2:30 all hands got

back to the ship. We set out for Apia, steaming and sailing. We managed to get to the passage before dark and, anchoring in the middle of it, lay there all that night. The distance from Makin to Apia is 25 miles or thereabout.

Early next morning, 26th, weighed anchor and, steaming up to the anchorage abreast of the station, dropped anchor at 9:15 a. m.

Quite a number of canoes came off when we anchored, amongst these was one containing a teacher and a man by the name of Kauri. It will be remembered he was the man who came to Honolulu to help Mr. Bingham translate the Bible into the Gilbert Island language. He is a man of more than ordinary ability and is above the average of Gilbert Islanders. After he returned to his island home, he fell from grace, but I am happy to say, is once more in the fold. He is now the strongest supporter of Christian work in Apia, being the head or superintendent of the Sunday school.

Mr. and Mrs. Channon and all of the party went ashore, this as soon as we came to an anchor. A meeting with the people was held to find out what progress they have made during the year, and also to make arrangements for the coming year. While Mr. Channon and his people were attending to their work on shore, the ship's company kept busy mending sails, rattling down and doing other little jobs needing attention.

HARRY SWINTON.
(To be Continued.)

AMERICAN FOURTH

Grand Ball and Literary Exercises.

No Fine Lines Drawn on Question of Citizenship—All Hands Will Join In.

About 46 Americans gathered in the Arlington Hotel parlors Saturday evening, in response to the call issued by Minister Sewall to make preparations for the celebration of the Fourth of July. Minister Sewall opened the meeting with a few remarks appropriate to the occasion. He said he was gratified to meet so many of his fellow-countrymen, and was particularly pleased to join with them in the celebration of the national holiday; he was with them heart and soul in his official and private capacity. In closing, Minister Sewall stated that he expected to soon be established in a home of his own, and extended a cordial invitation to all Americans to call at the Legation on the Fourth of July and at such other times as suited their pleasure. Having extended his greetings, the Minister awaited the pleasure of the assembled Americans.

Hon. P. C. Jones was unanimously elected permanent chairman, and J. A. Gilman secretary. In accepting the office of chairman, Mr. Jones said he was particularly pleased with the honor conferred upon him because "we've got a representative here now who is a true American. We've been bottled up here for four years, and I'm happy to say that our present representative is a man before whom we can say what we have to say without fear of hurting anyone's feelings."

Mr. Jones then called for nominations for the usual Committee of Twenty-One. The committee was quickly made up, and a 10-minute recess taken, in order to assign the members to the various sub-committees. Following was the result:

Finance—J. A. McCandless, Andrew Brown, P. C. Jones, J. B. Atherton and F. J. Lowrey.

Ball—W. P. Boyd, J. N. Wright, F. C. Smith, F. B. McStocker and T. B. Murray.

Literary—Rev. D. P. Bernie, George W. Smith, C. B. Ripley, A. V. Gear, W. R. Farrington.

Decorations—George Strassmeyer and G. W. R. King.

Printing—Ed. Towse and J. A. Kennedy.

Salutes—J. S. Martin.

The usual motion was carried, empowering the General Committee to add to its membership as additional assistance required.

On motion, it was voted the unanimous opinion of the American residents that the American Minister deliver the Fourth of July address. A few days previous Minister Sewall had privately expressed himself as hardly prepared to deliver the address this year, on account of the press of business, consequent to Government matters on hand. The expression of opinion among the assembled Americans, however, was so enthusiastic that he so modified his views as to request more time to think it over. The matter was referred to the Literary Committee, and it is safe to say that every effort will be made to obtain a favorable answer from Mr. Sewall.

After a vote of thanks to the American Minister for presiding and to Proprietor Krouse, of the Arlington, for the use of the parlors, the meeting adjourned.

From the make-up of the committee, it will be seen that the Literary exercises and ball at Independence Park will constitute the American celebration this year. The date of the ball has yet to be decided, since it is not known whether Saturday or Monday will be observed as the holiday. If Saturday be the day, the ball will, doubtless, come off Friday night, otherwise on Monday night, it being figured that those who attend the ball would not care particularly for the fireworks. It is stated from a reliable source that Minister Sewall will not draw fine lines on citizenship, and there will be no oc-

casional controversy between the Hawaiian and American celebration committees, anyone who will throw up his hat and help make the events of the day a success from beginning to end being cordially welcome to join in and no questions asked.

WITH SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Picnics at Kalihi Peninsula and Oahu College Grounds.

Following the custom established years ago, the pupils in the various Sabbath schools around town spent yesterday at picnics, and enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent. The children have been talking of the event for weeks, and their mothers and sisters have had their arms in dough up to their elbows for several days past, making pies and cookies.

The Christian Church Sunday School, thanks to Allen Herbert, were permitted to spend the day at his splendid country place, Kalihi. Buses took them from the church, Alakea and King streets, at 9 o'clock, and landed them at the grounds. With the members and friends, there were upwards of 400 present, and immediately on their arrival preparations were made to feed them: tables were spread and the good things enjoyed for an hour or more, then came the games, swings and races among the children.

At 4 o'clock the buses came to the grounds again and took the tired party home.

The regular annual picnic of Central Union Church Sunday School took place on the campus of Punahou College yesterday. Nearly a thousand people were present, the majority, of course, being children. Games of various kinds were played, and everyone spent a thoroughly enjoyable day. Delightful refreshments were served.

What was voted "the best of all" was the picnic of the Portuguese Church at Remond Grove. Transportation was provided by the O. R. & L. Co., and just 205 people went down on the train. There was an abundance of good things to eat and plenty of soda water, lemonade and ginger ale to drink.

The committee also provided games of different kinds, swings and arranged races and other athletic contests, which the little folks and big ones enjoyed to the full extent. Prize offerings were given to the winners, and much pleasure resulted. The party returned to the city after 5 o'clock, looking and feeling better for the day's outing.

Rev. A. V. Soares, W. A. Bowen and A. Frank Cooke are largely responsible for the pleasure of the day. Messrs. Bowen and Cooke are deeply interested in the welfare of the church, and never miss an opportunity to aid it by their presence and kind words. Each year the picnic of this church grows more popular, and with the additions to the membership the grounds at Remond Grove may soon be found too small for their accommodation.

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